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EXAMINER
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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

1. This action is in response to the Amendment filed on 12/10/2008. Claims 1-15 are pending with claims 1, 9, 11, and 12 as being amended.

### *Response to Arguments*

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
  2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
  3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
  4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh (US 2001/0021037 A1) in view of Partial Translations of JP 2000-215124 A (Partial).
  4. **Regarding claim 1**, Itoh substantially discloses the invention as claimed a network scanner device for transmitting image data through a network (see abstract, pg.

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1, par. 0015-0016) comprising: a reading section for scanning a document to obtain image data (see abstract, pg. 1, par. 0018), a first setting section for setting up a recipient address to which the image data is to be transmitted (pg. 1, par. 0019), a second setting section for setting up an optional sender address representing a sender in place of a sending station address specifying the network scanner device by accepting a designation of the sender address which is distinct from the sending station address (see pg. 1, par. 0020, fig. 10- where IP address is the address of the sender instead of the sending location address; also see par. 0059, 0146; sender and IP address of the transmitting destination), and a transmission control section for carrying out control for (a) adding to the image data the sender address set by the second setting section when the optional sender address is set up in place of the sending station address, and (see pg. 1, par. 0017, pg. 6, par. 0146, fig. 10, pg. 5, par. 0111) and transmitting the image data to the recipient address set by the first setting section (see pg. 1, par. 0022) (b) transmitting the image data with the sending station address and not the optional sender address when the optional sender address is not set up in place of the sending station address.

5. Itoh substantially discloses the invention as claimed above for the given reason however does not explicitly disclose wherein setting up a sender's address is sender's address instead of sending station address and the optional sender address is set up in place of the sending station address, and transmitting the image data with the sending station address and not the optional sender address when the optional sender address is not set up in place of the sending station address. However in the same field of

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invention Partial discloses wherein setting up a senders address is senders address instead of sending station address and the optional sender address is set up in place of the sending station address, and transmitting the image data with the sending station address and not the optional sender address when the optional sender address is not set up in place of the sending station address (see par. [0039, 0045, 0053-0055], figures 10, 1, 11, 17 and the details associated).

6. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill person in the art of networking to combine the teaching of Itoh and Partial for a network scanner device for transmitting data over a network. Motivation for doing so would have been that this method provides users more options to monitor and transmit image data over a network.

7. **Regarding claim 2**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a one-touch setting section (see pg. 1, par. 0021) for setting up the recipient address and the sender address simultaneously (see pg. 1, par. 0021, pg. 2, par. 0050).

8. **Regarding claim 3**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the one-touch setting section (see pg. 1, par. 0021) carries out setting of the recipient address and the sender address, in accordance with instructions by the sender (see pg. 2, par. 0050).

9. **Regarding claim 4**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a display section that is capable of displaying information including

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the recipient address and the sender address (see fig. 1, pg. 2, par. 0049, pg. 3, par. 0070, pg. 6, par. 0146).

10. **Regarding claim 5**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a storage section in which candidates of recipient addresses associated with each sender address are stored (see pg. 3, par. 0074), wherein, on setting of the sender address, the recipient address is chosen from candidates of recipient addresses associated with the sender address (see fig. 10, pg. 6, par. 0146).

11. **Regarding claim 6**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a storage section in which sender addresses associated with IDs representing users are stored (see pg. 2, par. 0054), wherein the sender address is automatically set up in accordance with an inputted ID (see pg. 3, par. 0073).

12. **Regarding claim 7**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 6, further comprising an ID input prompting section for making a display that prompts input of an ID representing a user, as a condition for start of operations of the device (see fig. 1, pg. 2, par. 0049, pg. 3, par. 0073).

13. **Regarding claim 8**, Itoh teaches a network scanner device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an operation panel by which information including the recipient address and the sender address is inputted or chosen (see abstract, pg. 1, par. 0019).

14. **Regarding claim 9**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 1, wherein information including the recipient address and the sender address can be inputted through the network (see pg. 1, par. 0055).

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15. **Regarding claim 10**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sending station address specifying the device is included in contents of a text of mail to which the image data is added (see pg. 5, par. 0132).

16. **Regarding claim 11**, Itoh substantially discloses the invention as claimed a network scanner device for transmitting image data through a network (see abstract, pg. 1, par. 0015-0016), comprising: image memory in which image data is stored (see fig. 2, pg. 2, par. 0056), a first setting section for setting up a recipient address to which the image data is to be transmitted (see pg. 1, par. 0019), a second setting section for setting up an optional sender address representing a sender in place of a sending station address specifying the network scanner device by accepting a designation of the sender address which is distinct from the sending station address (see pg. 1, par. 0020, pg. 6, par. 0146, fig. 10 -- where IP address is the address of the sender instead of the sending location address; also see par. 0059, 0146; sender and IP address of the transmitting destination), and a transmission control section for carrying out control for (a) adding to the image data the sender address set by the second setting section when the optional sender address is set up in place of the sending station address, and (see pg. 1, par. 0017, pg. 6, par. 0146, fig. 10, pg. 5, par. 0111) and transmitting the image data to the recipient address set by the first setting section (see pg. 1, par. 0022) (b) transmitting the image data with the sending station address and not the optional sender address when the optional sender address is not set up in place of the sending station address.

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17. Itoh substantially discloses the invention as claimed above for the given reason however does not explicitly disclose wherein setting up a sender's address is sender's address instead of sending station address and the optional sender address is set up in place of the sending station address, and transmitting the image data with the sending station address and not the optional sender address when the optional sender address is not set up in place of the sending station address. However in the same field of invention Partial discloses wherein setting up a sender's address is sender's address instead of sending station address and the optional sender address is set up in place of the sending station address, and transmitting the image data with the sending station address and not the optional sender address when the optional sender address is not set up in place of the sending station address (see par. [0039, 0045, 0053-0055], figures 10, 11, 17 and the details associated).

18. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill person in the art of networking to combine the teaching of Itoh and Partial for a network scanner device for transmitting data over a network. Motivation for doing so would have been that this method provides users more options to monitor and transmit image data over a network.

19. **Regarding claim 12**, Itoh substantially discloses the invention as claimed an image data transmitting method of a network scanner device (see abstract, pg. 1, par. 0015-0016) which attaches image data to electronic mail and transmits the image data through a network (see pg. 1, par. 0112-0113), comprising steps of: scanning a plurality of documents to obtain the image data (see pg. 1, par. 0002), setting first and second



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recipient addresses to which respective first and second parts of the image data are to be transmitted (see pg. 1, par. 0019), setting an optional sender address representing a user in place of a sending station address specifying the network scanner device by accepting a designation of the sender address which is distinct from the sending station address (see pg. 1, par. 0020, pg. 6, par. 0146, fig. 10 -- where IP address is the address of the sender instead of the sending location address; also see par. 0059, 0146; sender and IP address of the transmitting destination), adding the set sender address to the first part of the image data in place of the sending station address and transmitting the image data to the first recipient address through the networks (see pg. 1, par. 0112-0113, pg. 7, par. 0174, pg. 5, par. 0111); transmitting the second part of the image data, together with the sending station address, to the second recipient address.

20. Itoh substantially discloses the invention as claimed above for the given reason however does not explicitly disclose wherein setting up a sender's address is sender's address instead of sending station address and the optional sender address is set up in place of the sending station address, and transmitting the second part of the image data, together with the sending station address, to the second recipient address.

However in the same field of invention Partial discloses wherein setting up a sender's address is sender's address instead of sending station address and the optional sender address is set up in place of the sending station address, and transmitting the second part of the image data, together with the sending station address, to the second

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recipient address (see par. [0039, 0045, 0053-0055], figures 10, 1, 11, 17 and the details associated).

21. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill person in the art of networking to combine the teaching of Itoh and Partial for a network scanner device for transmitting data over a network. Motivation for doing so would have been that this method provides users more options to monitor and transmit image data over a network.

22. **Regarding claim 13**, Itoh discloses an image data transmitting method as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the step of scanning a document and obtaining image data (see pg. 1, par. 0015), the step of setting the recipient address to which the image data is to be transmitted (see pg. 1, par. 0019), and the step of setting the sender address representing the sender in place of the sending station address specifying the device are carried out in an altered sequence (see pg. 1, par. 0020, pg. 4, par. 0090, pg.7, par. 0164).

23. **Regarding claim 14**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the designation of the sender address is carried out by a user selection from addresses stored in the network scanner device in advance (see par. 0059, 0146; sender and IP address of the transmitting destination).

24. **Regarding claim 15**, Itoh discloses a network scanner device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the designation of the sender address is carried out by an input of the sender address by a user (see par. 0059, 0146, 0106; figure 7, inputs the IP address as the transmitting destination).

***Conclusion***

25. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

26. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

27. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **UMAR CHEEMA** whose telephone number is (571)270-3037. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Jr. Vaughn can be reached on 571-272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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28. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/U. C./

Examiner, Art Unit 2444

/William C. Vaughn, Jr./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2444